

Chicago Housing Authority
Board of Commissioners Public Session
February 21, 2012
Charles A. Hayes – Family Investment Center – 4859 S. Wabash

	Name	Question/Comment	Response
1	Francine Washington	<p>1) You should hire CHA youth for internship opportunities.</p> <p>2) In January of 2011, you purchased acquisition units. You purchased 23, 8 and 6 units. Why are you purchasing these units when you're tearing down high-rises? The units you're purchasing are just like high-rises.</p>	<p>1) CHA currently has 12 interns on staff. Of those 12 interns, six are CHA youth. The CHA internship program places an emphasis on hiring CHA youth, and will continue to do so. CHA will begin recruitment for 2012 summer interns on March 30. Interested candidates should submit their cover letter and resume to Nancy Owens - nowens@thecha.org</p> <p>2) It is unclear what acquisitions are being referred to in the comment. CHA has two programs to provide units which could be the source of the comment. First, for the Property Investment Initiative(PII) CHA acquires homes to accommodate the housing needs of larger public housing families, and these unit acquisitions have not been in high-rise buildings . CHA has focused on acquiring units in opportunity areas which provides residents the prospect to live in neighborhoods with access to community amenities.</p> <p>Second, the Property Rental Assistance (PRA) program commits property-based vouchers to privately developed and owned housing units in properties within Chicago's stable and revitalizing neighborhoods. CHA does not acquire units in the PRA program. The PRA executes long-term housing assistance payment contracts with private owners that enables the program to provide housing options for specific populations such as: working families, seniors, formerly homeless, veterans, intergenerational housing and persons with specific disabilities.</p>

2	William Lawrence Scott	<p>1) My first concern is the NATO/G-8 summit, I would like CHA to be involved in the type of planning that local businesses have been involved in. CHA residents should be notified of safety measures.</p> <p>2) I am concerned about the levels of senior services that CHA offers. Why can't we have more coordinated efforts for activities?</p> <p>3) Lastly, I want to thank Commissioner King for putting the calendar together, I read the entire thing and it was helpful.</p>	<p>1) The CHA is an active participant in all meetings arranged by the City of Chicago in reference to the upcoming NATO summit. We understand your concerns regarding safety and therefore we are doing everything within our power to ensure that our residents are not negatively impacted by any activities that will take place during this time. Safety measures and contingency plans are currently in development and will be shared with all residents in the near future.</p> <p>2) All of the senior buildings have Resident Service Coordinators (RSC) who's responsibility is to improve the quality of life for residents by linking residents to services which help them live independently. RSCs are also responsible for providing at least two social activities and one educational activity per month. Staff will work with resident leadership to provide more activities if the residents are interested - any input is always welcomed.</p> <p>3) Thank you for your comment.</p>
3	Manor Whiley	<p>1) I am a resident at Hilliard and I work for Caritas. I learned so much from this program and I will work for free to keep our residents lease-compliant. What can we get back in place to be able to work with residents to keep them lease compliant? We need to keep this program going. Commissioners Young, King and Beverely have worked with us a lot - we should rethink this budget cut.</p>	<p>FamilyWorks providers participate in monthly coordination meetings to address all non-lease compliance issues. Each week the FamilyWorks providers receive lease violations from Property Managers and they offer assistance to residents to resolve the issues. (FamilyWorks is a voluntary program and not all residents accept services.)</p> <p>Unless it is a property that requires drug testing, residents do not receive a lease violation due to substance abuse; rather it is the behavioral result of substance use that could lead to a violation (e.g. non-payment of rent, anti-social behavior). FamilyWorks offers to work with the resident to explore what is going on that led to the violation and creates strategies and plans to resolve the issue.</p> <p>If a resident who has a lease violation due to a behavioral result of substance abuse is not ready to quit or refuses to work with the FamilyWorks provider, he/she would be told that continued failure to cure the lease violation would lead to eviction. Neither FamilyWorks nor the Caritas program can set aside substance abuse treatment slots for residents. Thus, our FamilyWorks clinical teams have become the de-facto intervention program through group and individual counseling services.</p>

4	Betty Thompson	<p>1) I want to give Kudos to the construction team for the stairwells at Lake Parc Place. They did a great job with this.</p> <p>2) Sitting in the audience, I don't think I heard yay or nay on Item B1 - I don't know if I heard a yes or a no to this. Can the Commissioners take a vote on this again?</p> <p>3) The last thing I want to say is related to what Commissioner Harris said about Ida B. Wells. I used to come here before this place was the FIC. Let's give Charles Hayes and Ida B. Wells their due, let's acknowledge them more than every now and then.</p>	<p>1 + 3) Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>2) Item B1 was Board approved. Approval of this item authorizes the CEO or his designee to award 18 Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity Task Order contracts for general contracting work at various CHA Senior, Family, Scattered Site and Non-Dwelling Developments.</p>
5	Larry Gardner	<p>I live in San Diego and I am proud to have the opportunity to come here. I wrote a letter to CHA, I am a property owner in the voucher program. On January 17, I wrote a letter and on January 26, my issue was resolved. I would like to give thanks to Leticia Rivera and Marisol Caraballo on your staff. This is an impressive turnaround. One of my residents was told to move and we resolved the issue and they can stay. As an advocate, I want to make sure that other people are given the same attention as me. Thank you Commissioner King. There is an opportunity for CHA and you are doing great work.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p>
6	Shela Clay	<p>I am a participant in your program. What is the process for administrative review? I have a complaint about the voucher program. What is the procedure for administrative review?</p>	<p>CHA has conducted an internal review regarding Ms. Clays specific matter. After conducting this review, CHA has determined there are no administrative remedies available to the participant.</p>